

VOWELS

-- after Rimbaud

A -- Prairie dog gasping in drought, paws stretched
toward water in the distance; pintos trotting
toward a windmill sucking air.

E -- Satin dress on Miss Kincaid at her first
sockhop, chaperone, couldn't move her high-heels
in time to Bill Hailey, drunk on the punch
Bobby Billeu spiked.

I -- Dana's diaphragm round in its red velvet
traveling case, worn smooth by Howard Johnson's
bedspreads.

O -- My mother's eyes, dim, cataract-covered, still
seeing me in my tweed suit on Baptism Day.

U -- The sofa in the staffhouse our dachshund used
to lie on to watch when Ed Sullivan introduced
the dancing juggling bears. He growled and then,
stuffed with the strychnine in Old Man Stewart's ground
venison biting my hand behind that sofa,
growling at what phantom predators, he died.

-- Patrick Worth Gray

Omaha NE

LAMENT

Lautreamont must come first.
Chairil Anwar is equal

Baudelaire is lecturing
to 7 people.

GAGAKU

Three listen
Rimbaud is famous now

celebrate the misery
of a poetry reading

His mother gossips
with Baudelaire's ma.

celebrate
walking
out before it
starts